

Birth to Resurrection

Mark 8:31 – 35

I. Intro

- A. **Question:** 3 of the most important events in history of mankind – had an extreme impact on life, civilization? War, atomic bomb, growth of technology, etc.
 - i. 3 events – birth of Jesus Christ, crucifixion of Jesus Christ, resurrection of Jesus Christ
- B. Said often – if Jesus had not been crucified, his birth would've meant nothing; if Jesus had not risen from the dead, his crucifixion would've meant nothing
- C. Jesus tells about His own death and resurrection: **READ Mark 8:31 – 35**
- D. What happen in verses just before (**more detail tonight**) – Peter declares about Jesus, *You are the Christ*; Matthew 16:16 (ESV)
16 Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, **the Son of the living God.**”
- E. Not the first time Jesus had told His disciples about His crucifixion and resurrection – but they still did not understand; (**v. 31**) ... *the Son of Man **MUST** suffer many things ...*
- F. God's Messiah is not man's messiah – not man's place to determine the way of the messiah, how the messiah would save people; God doesn't work according to man's terms/desires
 - i. God, through Isaiah tells us: Isaiah 55:8-9 (ESV)
8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.
- G. Today, talk about these 3 most important events in history and their ramifications for all people, including you and me

II. Birth

- A. All scripture centered around Jesus Christ, He is the focus/emphasis/story/plot
- B. Story of birth of Christ in scripture is not just the first time He's mentioned; birth prophesied numerous places in OT
- C. **More on this verse tonight:** Isaiah 9:6 (ESV)
6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- D. **Question:** Why was Jesus' birth on of the 3 greatest events to take place in human history? How did it completely change the course of mankind?

- E. **Story of Nicodemus (John 3); ... unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God; confuses Nicodemus (entering mother's womb second time); Jesus gives further explanation - ... unless one is born of water and the Spirit**
- i. **Referring to Spiritual birth, not just physical birth; birth of water and Spirit includes a cleansing of all unrighteousness and Holy Spirit coming to live in us making our spirit which is dead because of sin, alive**
 - ii. **Jesus says: John 3:6 (ESV)**
6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
- F. **2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)**
17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation (**new birth**). The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.
- G. **1 Peter 1:23 (ESV)**
23 since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God;
- H. **The birth of Christ opens up the door for our new and Spiritual birth**

III. Crucifixion

- A. **Christ's last words on the cross before dying – Matthew and Mark gospels tell of Jesus crying out with loud voice just before giving up His spirit; Luke records Jesus' last words as *Father, into Your hands I commit my spirit*; John records last words as *It is finished***
- B. **John's account want to focus on – *It is finished*; Question: What was finished?**
- i. ***Tetelestai* (Gr.) - not a declaration of defeat, giving up – declaration of victory**
 - ii. **Jesus had completed His work on earth, His mission, fulfilled His purpose for coming to earth, but not as a defeated martyr but as a victorious conqueror**
 - iii. **Colossians 2:15 (ESV)**
15 He disarmed the rulers and authorities (**evil powers in this world**) and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.
- C. **Question: Why was Christ's crucifixion also one of the 3 greatest events to take place in history?**
- D. **Paul says it this way: Galatians 2:20 (ESV)**
20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.
- E. **Romans 6:6-7 (ESV)**

6 We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.
7 For one who has died has been set free from sin.

F. **Jesus words in today's passage on crucifying self: REFER v. 34, 35**

IV. Resurrection

A. **Peter's response in Mark 8 after Jesus tells about His upcoming death and resurrection; REFER v. 32, 33**

i. Peter only heard the "death" part, not the "resurrection" part

B. **Peter had wrong idea about who God's Messiah was; didn't understand that God's Messiah had to die to pay the debt and redeem us from sin**

C. **Again, it wasn't just the death of Christ that abolished sin and death, but it's His death AND resurrection**

D. **Account of women going to tomb 3 days after Jesus' death: READ Mark 16:5 – 7a**

E. **Question: Why is Jesus' resurrection one of the 3 greatest events to take place in all of human history?**

F. **Colossians 2:12-13 (ESV)**

12 having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.

13 And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, **God made alive together with him**, having forgiven us all our trespasses,

G. **2 Timothy 2:11 (ESV)**

11 The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with him, we will also live with him;

V. Close

A. **Therefore - 1 Peter 1:3 (ESV)**

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

B. **Romans 10:9 (ESV)**

9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

C. **Question: How has Jesus' birth, death, and resurrection impacted/changed your life?**